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~~"HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE INTEGRATION PROCESS FOR LOTTERY BETS"~~

10 OPERATIONS:

~~BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION~~

~~The present Patent Application refers to a Process of Hardware and Software Integration~~

~~for Operating Lottery Bets~~ of all kinds, including Instant Prize (scratch-and-win type),

either ~~by~~ ^{via} the Internet or by dedicated equipment ~~in~~ ^{of} the first case, through the use of

~~Equipments (Hardware) and Computer Programs (Software), acting as an Internet~~

15 ~~Service Provider, in such a way using, in a safe and efficient form, the Internet for the~~

~~accomplishment of bets~~ ^{the Internet is used} with the Official Lottery Provider ~~utilizing the Electronic~~

~~banking transfer of funds method as a form of payment. In case of using the dedicated~~

~~equipment use, such equipment is an electronic-mechanical one, of the console terminal~~

~~type, capable to accomplish lottery bets with direct interaction between the gambler and~~

20 ~~the machine~~ ^{The machines are} with connection ~~to~~ ^{well as} with the Official Lottery Provider, as with the banking

~~net, allowing the immediate payment through cards, what brings advantages of safety, so~~

~~in the operation as in the payment source identification, avoiding frauds and prize losses,~~

~~and bringing~~ simplicity and comfort to the operation. The use of this process ~~for the~~ ^{on}

~~Internet can be made by any computer terminal that is able to be connected to the~~

25 ~~Internet, through a World Wide Web (WWW) page to be provided by an Internet~~

~~Services Provider. This service, which uses and is connected on-line to the banking net,~~

~~aims to facilitate the accomplishment of bets without need of the gambler displacement,~~ ^{betting transactions requiring the} ~~to leave his home.~~

~~allowing, from an initial centralization,~~ ^{This allows} a virtual expansion of bet-making points and

substantially simplifying ^{ies} the form of bet payment. This service ~~still~~ provides an economy

of time and physical displacement, as well as safety and comfort to the gambler. ^{It also provides} freedom

5 to make bets ^{after} ~~out of~~ business hours with the possibility of redrawing and flexibility of

~~functioning time,~~ ^{and} the non-use of ^{face-to-face contact for} physical means of payment. ^{The process reduces} the possibility of ~~interdict~~

~~bets from legally non-permitted people, as well as the easiness offered to those disabled~~ ^{wagering, enables play for disabled people, and can be translated to many languages.}

~~to move for several reasons, and the diversification of languages for bet making.~~ Finally,

^{the} ~~this~~ process can facilitate identification of the origin of the operation and of the ~~bets~~

10 payment source. ~~helping in the resolution of possible litigations originating from the loss~~

~~of the game's voucher.~~

Current and lottery methods are as follows:

~~As it is well acknowledged by lotteries users, and in particular by the technicians~~

~~operating the Lottery, it can be bet nowadays by the following ways:~~

1. For Lottery ^{sports gambling} of Numbers games or ~~Sports-linked Lotteries as the Superbowl's,~~ it is

15 necessary to go to a lottery shop, ^{out} to fill a bet card, ^{and submit} pass it to an operator ^{The bet is put into} that puts

~~it in~~ the system with electronic validation through a card ^{and confirmed by} reader, ^{with delivery of}

a printed paper voucher containing the bet informations, the date, the number of

the raffle, the amount to pay or other ^{required} ~~valid~~ information. These bet data are

transferred to the Official Lottery Provider, ^{who} ~~that~~ computes and consolidates them.

20 The amount ^{due} is then paid by the gambler in ^{cash} ~~money~~, check, or, if the lottery shop

has ^{such} ~~them~~, through electronic means as credit card or banking net. The payment

system is ^{thus} ~~this way~~, totally dissociated ^{from} ~~of~~ the system of bets, not having a linking

^{from} ~~among~~ the net of the lottery office ^{to} ~~and~~ the banking net. The most serious

disadvantage of this current system is that, if the gambler wins ^{the} ~~the bet prize~~, its ^{the} only ~~comprobatory~~ ^{probative} document is a paper voucher. The prize is then paid to the bearer of the voucher, ^{which} ~~what~~ allows the possibility of frauds, ~~the loss of the prize~~ when one gets lost the voucher, ^{improper} ~~or the undue~~ payment to people that didn't make the winning bet. Other disadvantages are the need to make the bet ^{during} ~~at the~~ business hours, ^{which} ~~restraining~~ the consumer's freedom of schedule, ^{and} the inherent cost to the operation of peripherals ^{for} of two separate nets, ^{The system is also not convenient} besides the low agility and comfort of the ^{for users.} ~~transaction for the user of the systems.~~

2. ^{Ad} ~~Dedicated machine~~ ^a ~~of the type~~ ^{card} calculator-validator-printer, installed in the lottery shop, ^{and} ~~linked on-line~~ to the Official Lottery Provider, ^{in that} ~~the bet card is~~ handwritten ^{on} ~~through~~ paper cards, ^{with the cards} ~~being the bets marked in such cards~~ electronically validated through a card reader, ^{that returns} ~~with delivery of~~ a printed paper voucher containing the bets, the date, the number of raffle, the amount to pay and other ^{required} ~~valid~~ information, ^{and} ~~the voucher~~. The data of the bet ^{is} ~~are~~ then transferred to the Official Lottery Provider, ^{which} ~~that~~ computes them and consolidates them. The ^{winning is} ~~value is~~ then paid to the gambler ^{by cash} ~~in money~~, check, or, if the lottery shop has ~~se~~ them, ^{through} ~~such~~ electronic means as credit card or banking net. The payment system is, ^{again} ~~this way~~, totally dissociated ^{from} ~~of~~ the bet system, not having a link between the net of the lottery office and the banking net. ^{The same shortcomings are} ~~The most serious disadvantage of this~~ ^{present in this system as in that discussed above.} ~~current system is that, if the gambler win the bet prize, its only comprobatory~~ document is a paper voucher. The prize is then paid to the bearer of the voucher, ~~what allows the possibility of frauds, the loss of the prize when one gets lost the~~

~~voucher, or the undue payment to people that didn't make the winning bet. Other disadvantages are the need to make the bet at the time in which the shop works, restraining the consumer's freedom of schedule, the inherent cost to the operation of peripherals of two separate nets, besides the low agility and comfort of the transaction for the user of the systems.~~

5
3. ^{Ad} Dedicated machine ^a of the type ^{that is} calculator-monitor-printer, installed in places like bars, snack bars and similar establishments, ^{These machines show,} showing through a video monitor, the accomplishment of number bets in recurrent periods of time, like those ^{in the} denominated "Pimba" game in Brazil. ^{These machines are} linked on-line with the Official Lottery Provider. This type of machine ^{also has} presents the disadvantages of having the payment system totally dissociated ^{from} of the bet system, not having a link between the net of the lottery office and the banking net, ^{and} besides the need to make the bet at the time in which the shop ^{is open} works, ~~restraining the consumer's freedom of schedule, the inherent cost of the operation of peripherals of two separate nets,~~

15 ~~besides the low agility and comfort of the transaction for the user of the systems.~~

4. ^{Ad} Dedicated machine of the video-game and/or video-poker type, installed in places like bingos, that play games like the so called "jogo-da-velha" in Brazil, ^{These machines} and that are linked on-line with the operator of the lottery office for revenue control. ^{are again subject to described above.} This type of machine presents the disadvantages of having the payment system totally dissociated of the bet system, not having a link between the net of the lottery office and the banking net, besides the need to make the bet at the time in which the shop works, ~~restraining the consumer's freedom of schedule, the inherent cost~~

~~of the operation of peripherals of two separate nets, besides the low agility and comfort of the transaction for the user of the systems.~~

5. Games of the Instant-Prize (scratch-and-win type) lottery, like "raspadinha" in Brazil, ~~that are made through the previous purchase of a carton or paper ticket~~ printed with numbers, letters or figures, such printings being covered by a removable opaque film, ~~that, on being scraped with the fingernail or with appropriate rasper, looses from the ticket,~~ showing the content of the game and, consequently, its result. This game system is, currently, sought principally by people that ^{frequent} ~~walk around~~ very popular and crowded places, ^{Users typically have} ~~and they should go to the commercialization points to make this,~~ having, eventually, ⁱⁿ ~~to wait~~ lines to acquire the tickets.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Lower cost ~~The~~ ^{Hardware and Software Integration Process for Lottery}

BETS OPERATION, ~~that is the object of the present~~ ^{invention} ~~patent,~~ was developed to

give a new option to the users of lotteries, through ^{the} ~~use of~~ ^{the} Internet or through

dedicated equipment, ~~for the accomplishment of the bets and use of appropriate~~

~~equipments and computer programs~~ ^{The system} to provide an on-line connection to the

Lottery Operation Centers and to ^{the} ~~banking net~~ and, providing ^{therefore} a virtual expansion

of points of ^{placing} ~~accomplishment~~ of bets, ^{The system a} ~~simplifying~~ ^{process} the form and guaranteeing the

^{to the proper parties.} ~~payment of the same ones.~~

- 20 ~~The~~ ^{movement} service using the Internet ~~still~~ provides an economy of time and physical displacement, as well as safety and comfort to the gambler, ^{It further provides the} ~~freedom to make bets~~ ^{after} ~~out of~~ business hours, with the possibility of redrawing and flexibility of ^{The system provides a secure} ~~functioning time, the non-use of physical means of payment, the possibility of~~ ^{eliminates}

~~interdict bets from legally non-permitted people, as well as the easiness offered to those disabled to move for several reasons, and the diversification of languages~~

~~for bet making. Finally, this process facilitates identification of the origin of the operation and of the bets payment source, helping in the resolution of possible~~

~~litigations originating from the loss of the game's voucher.~~

~~Using the dedicated in a kiosk setting.~~
The dedicated equipment presents advantages of using a consult terminal (kiosk),

~~where the own gambler interacts with the terminal through the video monitor screen, choosing and accomplishing its game that is computed immediately, and for overall control,~~

~~can be stored and transferred periodically to the Lottery Office for control sake,~~

~~through disk or magnetic tape, or sent electronically on-line in an automatic way~~
via The control transfer can be done automatically or by using through time/quantity mechanism, or even through the intervention of an

~~authorized operator. Soon after, the gambler makes the payment by bank or credit cards, using his data, and direct link is established with the banking or cards net.~~

~~Through this, his bet is dated and identified, with total safety, by his card. Soon~~

~~after, it receives a printed paper voucher of the operation, containing all the debit~~

~~information and a verifying of the accomplished games. By this way, the bet is linked to the specific gambler, so that even if he loses the bet could cease to be anonymous, identifying the paying source and being vinculated receipt, payment of a winning play can be made to the proper account.~~
to the bearer of the card, which can follow the result by its voucher, or, if he loses

~~it, he can even be communicated by the Lottery Office of his eventual award, by~~

~~letter, electronic mail, phone service or any other media, with total secrecy and protection of his identity, as already happens currently with the bank information.~~

~~Other advantages are the total flexibility in attendance time schedules, for the terminals can be installed in kiosks with 24 working hours a day, without~~

~~employees' intervention, the reduction of operational costs inherent to the linking of nets in only one terminal, the possibility to inform, by means of "menu" type option the results, warnings and statistics of previous games, the elimination of physical means of payment, the possibility of attendance in several languages,~~
5 ~~besides the easiness and speed in the making of the bets.~~

ff Using the system of tpi for

~~The accomplishment of lottery games of the scratch-and-win type by this~~

~~integration process, presents~~ *enlarges the potential market by allowing access through personal computers or at kiosks.*
~~the advantage of enlarging this type of game utilization, putting at peoples~~

~~disposition a new practicality for those that possess the modern resources of~~

10 ~~personal microcomputers and Internet, or have easy access to dedicated game machines (kiosks), aiming to give a new attractiveness to the gambler and fan of~~

~~lottery games, once it uses Hardware and Software for, in real time, to sell, to~~

Using computers for virtual
~~present and to allow the "scratching" for the display of the game result in the~~

~~virtual game card containing hidden numbers, letters or illustrations, everything~~

15 ~~in a virtual way, presenting a new easy and comfortable option to these players~~

The of spent standing is eliminated.
~~which won't waste time in lines in the lottery sales points, because they can~~

~~accomplish this game type through the Internet or directly in dedicated game~~

~~machines (kiosks) located in strategic places, such as shopping centers, peoples~~

~~transport terminals, leisure areas, etc., using as form of previous payment, the~~

20 ~~banking or credit cards. Besides that, there are economic advantages in not being~~

~~necessary the production, distribution and management of the current game cards~~

~~elaborated with relatively high cost materials, in addition to being~~

~~environmentally correct.~~

~~For better understanding of the present Patent Application the following drawings are enclosed.~~

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIGURE 1, ~~that shows the Block Diagram of the Equipments for the Internet using Process.~~ *for the system of the present invention.*

5 FIGURE 2, ~~that shows the Block Diagram with the linking of equipments~~ *the linked hardware for dedicated terminals.*

~~(Hardware) for building of the dedicated bet terminal.~~

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION *At the system of tpi uses*

~~The accomplishment of the Process that uses the Internet happens through an~~

~~association of computers (Hardware) and computer programs (Softwares) whose~~

~~purposes are specific, that is to say: search and monitoring of incoming lines of~~ *the*

10 ~~attendance, prioritizing the accesses by arrival order and feeding the services~~ *direction to*

~~provider attendance to the incoming solicitations by arrival order and~~

~~conditioning the communication with the applicant with the safety and necessary~~

~~speed in all the phases of this communication; consult and electronic transfer of~~ *ation*

~~values (of the bets) to the banking and/or cards net in a safe and efficient way;~~ *credit*

15 ~~trans~~ *trans* ~~mission of records of accomplishment of bets (sales), sending it to the applicant~~ *a record*

~~and storage adequate to the emission of reports and to the transfer to the Lottery~~ *ing reports*

~~Office; communication with the Lottery Office for transfer of values (Total~~

~~accounting of bets/sales) and of reports.~~

tpi
20 ~~The mechanism of operation of the process using the Internet is based on the~~

~~principles of consult~~ *ing with* ~~and commercial operation via Internet. For this are~~ *the This requires*

~~necessary the Services Provider (SP), the Users (U) and the Internet properly.~~ *itself*

The (SP) ^{has} ~~should have~~ a structure based on ^{and} Computers, Interfaces, Specific Computer Programs, ^{structured} ~~ordered~~ in such a way to ^{enable} ~~make~~ the reception of ^{communications} ~~consults~~ to ^{from} ~~be made by~~ the users (U), ^{The SP may also} ~~to be~~ Host of an Internet Home-Page, ^{to} ~~to be Access~~ ^{a point of placement for} ~~Provider~~ to lottery bets, (commercial part) and to accomplish operations of electronic transfer (payments) ^{through} ~~by~~ the banking net, ^{and via credit} ~~through~~ cards ^{The software of the system is also} ~~as well as to be~~ able to ^{perform} ~~make~~ authentication, ^{transfer of the bets,} ~~emission~~ and sending of vouchers and receipts to the users (U), and to emit internal operational reports and to communicate with the Lottery Office.

10 ~~It~~ The amount and form of linking of the computers is a function of the structure and attendance philosophy, ^{of the SP, that is} ~~that is to say,~~ of the interface with the necessary communication media ^{to} ~~for~~ link ^{the SP} ~~this provider~~ and the Internet connection point. ^{must also be compatible with the SP,} ~~of the~~ The hosts of the pages of the system of bets attendance, ^{as must} ~~connection with~~ the several servers of the banking or cards system, ^{credit} ~~or~~ of a database ^{The system also requires} ~~with the structure of~~ information and bets, ^{records,} ~~of the~~ storage and communication system, ^{means to} ~~for sending and change of~~ information with the Lottery Office.

15 ~~It~~ The user (U), that is to say, the gambler, ^{must} ~~should~~ have ^a ~~its~~ computer terminal with access to the Internet, ^{and must have access to electronic payment means.} ~~should be active customer of the banking or cards net and~~ ~~should possess access password (card).~~ The necessary minimum configuration for Internet operation is ^{defined by} ~~inherent to~~ the user, ^{specific equipment,} ~~and is in agreement~~ with his access ^{compatible} ~~provider.~~

20 ~~It~~ The Software ^{of the system} will provide the operation principles, ^{communication with} ~~that are based on consultation~~ ~~to the Internet, with the following sequence:~~

A) The user (U) access the net and, when "browsing" (navigating) ^{with their browser} by the same, access this service page (for example, <http://www.lotomidia.com.br>), which will guide him to the main menu.

B) The main menu ^{links to} will inform ^{users of the games available and the results of} the attendances possible to be rendered, what means, ^{previous games.} of the bet types ~~disponible~~ to the user (U), as well as will inform the results of

previous games assisted by the lottery structure in subject, and finally ^{The main menu} will gives ^{users} the option to continue or to leave. If ^{a user} one wants to leave it, he will return to the net.

C) To ^{use the system} continue, the user (U) chooses by "clicking" (with the mouse) ^{to either} and then accessing the results of previous games or the bet type that ^{he} it intends to make ^{and} the system will offer him ^{the system displays} the possibilities ^{plays} together with the pertinent bet prices.

D) If the ^{user has chosen} option is to see the results, the user (U) receives them ^{results of game} and will have the option to continue or to leave. If ^{a user} one wants to leave, he ~~will~~ return to the net. If ^{he} one wants to continue, he will return to the main menu ~~mentioned in B~~.

E) If the option is to bet, the user (U), after the ^{playing} accomplishment of his games, will ^{receive a record} have as result, in case he has not made any mistake, an overview of these games ^{The record includes} as well as of the value of each operation ^{play requiring} to be accomplished for payment by the banking or cards. ^{of credit} He ^{The user has} will have the option of still continue to accomplish the game. ^{When stops the user} In case he gives up, he will have the option to continue or to leave. ^{he} If one he

wants to leave, he will return to the net, ^{or he} if one wants to continue, he will return to the main menu ^{of a} mentioned in b). In case ~~any~~ mistake happens or one want to ^{an error message will give} cancel, it will appear the reason of the mistake and it will be given to the gambler

^{will be given} the option of trying again. ^{In positive case it will go back to the screen to do the} In positive case it will go back to the screen to do the ^{play place} If the gambler chooses to continue, he will return

if the gambler chooses not to continue
bet; ~~in negative case~~, or after three attempts ^{at placing} of doing the bet, the option will be given to continue or to leave. If ~~one want~~ ^{the user chooses} to leave, he ~~will return~~ ^{he chooses} to the next ~~one~~

~~want to continue~~, he will return to the main menu ~~mentioned in the item B).~~

- When a bet is made, payment is
- F) ~~In case he doesn't give up, it will be~~ made automatically, the payment consult, being typed the data for ^a the debit or credit cards, ^{already having been entered.} through electronic change of information with the chosen system, and ^{the transaction has been} after approved the transaction, the ^{play} accomplishment of the game will be confirmed and it will happen ^{adg} the recording of the accomplished operation, generating ^{ed} for the user (U), the receipt of the ^{showing} financial operation and ~~emission~~ ^{transaction} of a voucher with the game data in the form ^{including} required ^{required} demanded by the Lottery Provider, ~~making them disponible for the user (U) for~~ obligatory storage and/or printing close to the user terminal. It is possible to pay ^{winning bets can be paid with a single} multiple games with ~~the same~~ payment process. ^{The system can generate any}

~~The process that uses the Internet can, as an alternative, generate a written~~ ^{that is desired.} communication to the user (U), informing that the same won the bet or even any other

15 general information

- ^{of tpi} ^{Includes} The Hardware to accomplish the process that uses the Internet, possesses a computer arrangement in ^a local net ^{work} through dedicated ports to ^{acomodate internet users by providing} the external media, that is to say, for ^{credit} the attendance of the Internet users, for connection with the banking and ^{also} cards nets and for connection with the Lottery Office or Official Lottery Provider. The number of access ^{requireds} ports ^{number of users.} will be a function of the traffic to be assisted. ^{The system requires} There will be four microcomputers:
- 20 ^a first for communication, ordering and sending of messages (COM), ^a second for general processing and attendance (PGA), ^a third for attendance to the Internet (ATI), and ^a fourth for storage (STO). The four microcomputers, ~~should~~ have the following minimum

characteristics: ~~Server and attendant Stations with a~~ Processor with ^{clock} ~~minimum clock~~ of 200MHz; ~~with~~ cache memory of 256 Kbytes; ~~with~~ main memory of 64 Mbytes expandable to at least 128 Mbytes; ~~with~~ hard disk of 4 Gbytes, with Fast SCSI-2 interface, with ~~medium~~ ^{an} time of access of 15 ms or less and with a minimum disk transfer rate of 4Mbytes/s; ~~with~~ a 3^{1/2} " floppy-disk drive for 1.44Mb of formatted memory; ~~with~~ a CD-ROM unit of 600 Mbytes of formatted memory, SCSI-2 interface, form factor ~~5.25~~ inches, a minimum sustained rate of transfer of 330 kbps, medium time of access of 300 ms or less, reading/record by ISO 9660, ^{caps} High-Sierra, CD-ROM ^{caps} Kodak Photo CD or similar standard, with minimum eight times the standard speed; I/O unit with a parallel interface Centronics standard, two high-speed serial interfaces EIA RS-232 C/CCITT V 24/V.48 standard and a SCSI-2 Fast/Wide interface; network interface IEEE 802.3 (Ethernet) standard, PCI with an UTP port (100Base-T); a color SVGA 15 " Video Monitor with a resolution of 1024x768 ~~points~~ and 0.28 mm dot pitch non interlaced; expansion ^{capability} with at least two PCI slots, a PCI/ISA slot and 3 ISA slots; 101 keys keyboard; and ^a three buttons ^{FF 570} mouse with a 400 dpi resolution. The microcomputer (~~STO~~) will also ^{include} ~~be endowed with~~ an external magnetic tape unit ^{for} 4 mm DAT tapes (DAT cartridges), with a minimum formatted storage capacity of 8 Gbytes (without compression), SCSI-2 interface (standard ANSI X3.131.-1994) and minimum MTBF 70,000 hours; with a color scanner with capacity for 16.7 million colors, minimum resolution of 1,200 dpi, SCSI/SCSI-2 interface (standard ANSI X3.131-1990/1994), scan area of ~~8.5~~ ^{8.5} x 14 inches, support to PICT, TIFF and EPS (minimum), and drivers that run in ~~another~~ platforms.

^{FF con} The microcomputer (~~COM~~) will ^{include} ~~also be endowed with~~ multiseri-
al communication

interfaces with 12 high-speed ports standard EIA RS-232C/CCITT V.24/V.48 and high-speed interface for connection at 64 Kbps at least.

- Referring now*
According to FIGURE 1, the process for use of the Internet occurs in the following sequence: the user (U) will communicate with the Phone Network (PN), which will be
- 5 ~~bilaterally~~ connected with the Services Provider (SP) that ~~is endowed with~~ ^{has} 12 external modems (MD) compatible with the ~~interfaces of the~~ first microcomputer (COM) interfaces ^{to the} with first microcomputer (COM) ^{is} connected ~~bilaterally~~ to the modems (MD) and connection box (HUB), with ^{the} connection box (HUB) connected ~~bilaterally~~ ^{to} with the first microcomputer (COM), ~~with~~ the second microcomputer (PGA), ~~with~~ the third
- 10 microcomputer (ATI) and ~~with~~ the fourth microcomputer (STO) ^{the} ~~with~~ second microcomputer (PGA) ^{is} connected ~~bilaterally~~ to the box (HUB) and ~~connected unilaterally~~ to the scanner (SCA) and the printer (PRI) ^{the} ~~with~~ third microcomputer (ATI) ^{is} connected ~~bilaterally~~ to the box (HUB) and ^{to the} ~~with~~ fourth microcomputer (STO) ^{is} connected ~~bilaterally~~ to the box (HUB) and ^{to} the Tape Unit (TU).
- 15 *of tpi*
The computer programs (Softwares), ~~in the Internet using process, will be ordered and associated in such a way that they will run in local network 100 base T and distributed in a way they will work as follow described.~~ ^{for the preferred embodiment is} The chosen platform ~~will be~~ Windows NT ^{and} ~~The specific programs will be distributed like this:~~ ^{include at least the following:} management of the whole system ^(a Firewall), making specific reports as well as surveillance against intruders ~~input (Fire Wall),~~ ^{work, and}
- 20 communication among the units of the local net, communication ~~and ordaining~~ with the access means as well as with the Internet; ^{my} storage and database updated in real time; ^{directing} operational safety with cryptography resources; ^{aiming} electronic data exchanges ^{PP} banking ^{credit} cards transfers; page hostage ^{ing} and maintenance ^{on} in the Internet. The necessary

Software^a for the Server Stations will have as^a minimum^{specification} MS-DOS 6.22 or ^{better} superior, Windows NT, Office Pro, Borland C++ 4.0, Visual Basic 3.0 Pro or ^{better} superior,

SNMP Agent, Lottery Management, Fire Wall, Anti-virus, Electronics Data

Exchanges/Banking/cards transfer Interface, Cryptography, HTML Pages Providing, MS

5 ^{caps} Explorer or Netscape, Communication and database software ^{caps} Sybase or Oracle ^{from} and for.

^{was} The Attendant Stations ^{have} the following minimum specifications: MS-DOS 6.22 or superior,

Windows 95/98, Cryptography, HTML Pages Providing, Communication, SNMP Agent

and ^a Access ^{the} to database.

It According to FIGURE 2, the dedicated equipment for lottery bets ^{comprises} is composed of a

10 processor (1) for general processing and accesses attendance, with central processor ^a such as Intel

^{caps} Pentium PRO or ^{the} equivalent, with the following minimum requirements: clock of 200

MHz, " cache " memory of 256 Kbytes, main memory of 64 Mbytes expandable to at

least 128 Mbytes, ^{and} an auxiliary standard keyboard ^{with} 101 keys ^{QF} for access to the databases

and the programs by technicians ^{especially} authorized, ^a ~~an unit of~~ hard disk for database,

15 with a formatted storage capacity of 4 Gbytes or more, ~~endowed~~ with type " Fast SCSI-2

" communication interface ANSI X3.131-1994 standard, with an access time of 15 ms or

less and ^a minimum transfer rate of 4 Mbytes/s, ~~an~~ ³⁵ floppy-disk unit with 1.44 Mbytes

formatted capacity, for data storage and transfer, a " DAT " (Digital Audio Tape) tape

unit for storage of data that can be periodically transferred to the lottery net, with

20 minimum storage capacity of 8 Gbytes without data compression, with type " SCSI-2 "

communication interface ANSI X3.131-1994 standard, with minimum time between

failures (MTBF) of at least 70,000 hours ^{the system further comprises} a CD-ROM unit for storage and transfer of

data, with minimum speed 24 times greater than standard " MPC ", minimum formatted

capacity of 600 Mbytes, type " SCSI-2 " communication interface, form factor of 5 1/2

inches, sustained transfer rate of 330 kbps or more, ^{ms}medium time of access of 300 ms or

less, reading/record by ISO 9660, ^{caps}High-Sierra, ^{caps}CD-ROM X-A, and ^{on the like:}Kodak Photo CD ^{and}

^{The system includes a} soundboard unit ^{and} for sound alarm, a video monitor (2) type touch screen where the

5 gambler will make ^{his}its choices through a " menu ", ^{which}and will inform his data bank after

making the ^{he}bet ^{will have at least}said monitor with the following minimum requirements: color, 14 " super

VGA standard, with a resolution of 1025x768 points, 0.28 mm " dot pitch ", non

interlaced, touch sensitive, a communication interface set(3) for communication (through

the public phone system) with the banking, ^{credit}cards and lottery nets, multiserial with a

10 minimum ^{at}6 ports, EIA RS-232C/CCITT V.24/V.48 standard and 6 modems compatible

with the described interfaces and a speed of 336 Kbps ^{The system also includes a} magnetic card ^areader unit (4),

for reading of the gambler's debit or credit card, ^aspeaker (5), ~~for sounding of the screen~~

~~touches and user warnings, a printer unit (6) for printing of the bet vouchers and~~

~~payments on the gambler's part, and the electric current source (7)~~ ⑦

15 ^{It}The ~~software~~s that allow the access and operation of the dedicated equipment accomplishes the following sequence of events:

a) The user (U) is introduced to the start screen ^{so as}with alternating screens ~~in way~~ to avoid ~~the~~ burning ~~of~~ the video monitor (phosphorus). The user ^{es}should press a Start ^{on}key ^{or}at the touch sensitive monitor to ~~the touch~~ to access the main menu

20 b) The " main menu " screen offers the following options: to verify the result of previous games, and to choose the possible game types (type I game, type II game, type III game, and so on). In case the system ^{does not change}~~stays stable~~ for more than 2

minutes, without any choice on the part of the user (U), ^{the system returns to} it ~~comes back~~ at the start screen (stage a);

c) ^{when} ~~In case~~ the user (U) has opted for verifying the result of ~~the~~ previous games, he is presented to a ^{desired} menu screen with the following options: the date of the ^{wanted} transaction extraction, the ^{transaction} extraction number, or the return to the main menu. ^{After opting,} ~~it is presented the requested results.~~ In case the system ^{does not change} stays stable for more than 2 minutes, without any choice on the part of the user (U), the system ^{returns} ~~comes back~~ to the main menu (stage b);

d) If, in ~~the~~ stage b, the user (U) has chosen one of the offered games types, the system requests a confirmation of ~~the accomplishment~~ ^{desired} of the ~~wanted~~ game. If the option is "do not ^{chosen} accomplish ^{play} game", the system ^{returns} ~~comes back~~ to the "main menu" (stage b). If the option is "^{play} accomplish game", the system ^{advances to} ~~executes the~~ (stage c);

e) The game ^{play} ~~accomplishment~~ menu offers the possible options for ^{play}, ~~accomplishment of the bet~~, such as ~~dozens~~, combinations of letters, illustrations, etc., according to the type of game chosen. After confirmation on the user's part, the system checks the validity of the bet, avoiding such mistakes as repetition of numbers, etc. In case mistakes ^{are discovered} ~~had happened~~ in the bet, the system indicates them ^{to the user} and offers a new ^{errors} ~~trying~~ option. After a limit of 3 ^{wrong trying}, the system ^{returns} ~~comes back~~ to the main menu (stage b). When the bet is validated by the system, ^{the system advances to} ~~it~~ goes to the stage (f);

f) The system offers the option "to leave the game". ^{If} ~~In case~~ the answer is affirmative, the system ^{returns} ~~comes back~~ to the start screen (stage a). ^{If} ~~In case~~ the answer is negative, the system ^{advances} ~~passes~~ to the stage (g);

g) The ~~menu~~^{h3} of bank/credit card choice allows the user (U) to indicate ~~its~~^{his} bank or credit card operator for payment of the bet. ~~After the choice, it goes to the (stage h),~~

h) The user (U) passes his magnetic card ~~in~~^{through} the card reader and his data are transferred to the banking or ~~cards~~^{credit} net;

i) The user (U) types his data ~~and tries~~ to validate the payment ~~by the system current in the banking or cards net, that is,~~ with confirmation and a limit of 3 incorrect attempts. There is a return to the stage (f) ~~after~~^{if} this limit; ~~and~~^{is exceeded}

j) The system prints the bet and payment voucher, containing the necessary data for the user (U) to verify the results. The system ~~comes back to the~~^{then returns} main menu (stage b).

4) The ~~mentioned~~ Software and Hardware ~~to use~~^{utilizing} the Internet or the dedicated equipment ~~of type~~^{of type} can also be used for will provide conditions of accomplishment of lottery bets of the "scratch-and-win" type.

In this case, the ~~that in addition uses~~ Software that realizes a process that creates two layers: ~~the superior~~^{a virtual game card with} an outer layer (covering) that can be removed by ~~means of previous conditions that shall be obeyed (and demonstrated as follows),~~^{the user,} and the ~~inferior~~^{inner} layer (permanent) ~~superimposed by the~~^{covered} outer superior layer which will contain information ~~that are~~^{is} typical for this game type (prizes, information, messages, etc.).

4) Each virtual game card will be available ~~or liberated~~ only after the payment operation is concluded ~~and it will contain the indication of~~^{The card will appear in} a prominent region on the screen, so that the removal of the covering (erasing) can begin. This region, ~~the gambler should click~~^{the gambler should click} on the card with the mouse ~~(Internet)~~^(in the based application) or should touch with finger point ~~(kiosk)~~^(in the application), to begin the removal of ~~this superior~~^{the outer} layer. This process, once begun, is irreversible. In case ~~the~~^{an} award is won,

it will appear ^{on} in the screen ^{for} ~~posterior printing~~, ~~A~~ ticket with all ~~this~~ ^{the} operation

information, ^{is printed,} from which the player will opt for receiving ^{his} ~~its~~ prize via electronic bank

operation or via authorized bank. The payment of the prize can be made automatically by

means of deposit in the gambler's bank account ~~(eventually, the same account used~~

- 5 ~~previously to pay the virtual "scratch-and-win" game), a voucher of the values deposited~~
~~to the~~ in bank account being ~~trans~~ ^{with} emitted.

~~The superior layer will be removed, and it will only be altered once with the "scratching",~~

by use of the mouse, in the case of a microcomputer linked to the Internet, or by the use

of the finger, in the case of dedicated game machine ~~(kiosks)~~ ⁰; These layers will be

- 10 assembled ^{prior to play,} ~~a priori,~~ taken ^{ing} into account the information ~~previously~~ established by the

Lottery Office, ^{The cards are} and by this type of game administrator, appropriately coded, and they ^{number} ~~will~~

~~be open by the Software so that it is made a number~~ of virtual game cards ³ controlled by

~~this office, properly numbered and coded, and whose control will be done by means of~~

~~on-line operation, providing that the liberation of the winning virtual game card can be a~~

- 15 ~~random, sequential or criteria one.~~ The ⁰ ~~inferior~~ ^{randomizer} layer will be fixed and ^{will be} ~~never will have~~

~~conditions of being altered~~ ⁰ its information will be valid in any situation and they will be

~~recognized by any agent authorized by this game provider office. For this, can be printed~~

~~in specific format, so much in the dedicated game machines, with common paper and~~

~~with a characteristic printing, when the award happens (otherwise the impression won't~~

- 20 ~~be liberated), as in microcomputer terminals linked to the Internet or to the consults~~

~~terminal, with normal printing paper also with a characteristic printing and in identical~~

~~way in the case of award.~~

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An internet based lottery system for various gambling games
The present Patent Application refers to ~~4~~ ¹ ~~HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE~~

~~INTEGRATION PROCESS FOR LOTTERY BETS OPERATIONS~~ ^{lower case} of all kinds,

including Instant Prize (scratch-and-win type) ^{the game is played} either by the Internet or by dedicated

5 equipment ^{requires} ~~in the first case through the use of Equipments (Hardware) and Computer~~

~~Programs (Softwares), acting as an Internet Service Provider, in such a way using, in a~~

~~safe and efficient form, the Internet for the accomplishment of bets with the Official~~

^{Winning plays are paid via} ~~Lottery Provider, utilizing the electronic banking transfer of funds ^① method as a form of~~

~~payment. In case of using the dedicated equipment use, such equipment is an electronic-~~

10 ~~mechanical one, of the consult terminal type, capable to accomplish lottery bets with~~

~~direct interaction between the gambler and the machine, with connection so with the~~

~~Official Lottery Provider, as with the banking net, allowing the immediate payment~~

~~through cards, what brings advantages of safety, so in the operation as in the payment~~

~~source identification, avoiding frauds and prize losses, and bringing simplicity and~~

15 ~~comfort to the operation~~